

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-26 (canceled)

27. (Previously presented): A backlight device comprising:
a two dimensional array of point light sources;
a light guide plate comprising a first surface emitting light from the point light sources and a second surface emitting light passing through the first surface;
the first surface comprises a two dimensional array of convex structures, each convex structure aligned with a point light source in the array of point light sources.

28. (Previously presented): The backlight device of claim 27, wherein the two dimensional array of convex structures comprises convex structures distributed uniformly in both dimensions on the first surface of the light guide plate.

29. (Previously presented): The backlight device of claim 27, wherein the two dimensional array of convex structures comprises convex structures distributed in a two dimensional matrix across plane of the first surface of the light guide plate.

30. (Previously presented): The backlight device as in claim 27, wherein the first surface further comprises a planar surface from which the convex structures extend.

31. (Previously presented): The backlight device of claim 27, wherein each convex structure has a recess directly facing each point light source.

32. (Previously presented): The backlight device as in claim 31, wherein each point light source is not entirely received in the corresponding recess of the convex structure.

33. (Previously presented): The backlight device as in claim 31, wherein at least a portion of each point light source remains outside the corresponding recess of the convex structure.

34. (Previously presented): The backlight device as in claim 31, wherein the point light sources are positioned relative to the convex structure such that light from the point light sources are substantially received through the convex structure.

35. (Previously presented): The backlight device as in claim 31, wherein the point light sources are juxtaposed to the convex structure.

36. (Previously presented): The backlight device as in claim 31, wherein the two dimensional array of point light source comprises LEDs.

37. (Previously presented): The backlight device as in claim 31, wherein the two dimensional array of LEDs are supported on a back plate.

38. (Previously presented): The backlight device as in claim 31, wherein the recess is an arc-shape recess.

39. (Previously presented): The backlight device as in claim 27, wherein the convex structure has at least one of a frustum shape or a truncated cone shape.

40. (Previously presented): The backlight device as in claim 27, wherein the convex structure has a proximal end portion and a distal end portion directly facing a corresponding point light source in the array of point light sources, and wherein cross-section of the convex structure reduces in area from the proximal end portion to the distal end portion.

41. (Previously presented): The backlight device as in claim 40, wherein the cross-section of the convex structure at the distal end portion is at least one of a circular shape, hexagon shape or another polygon shape.

42. (Previously presented): The backlight device as in claim 40, wherein the cross-section of the convex structure at the proximal end portion is at least one of a circular shape, hexagon shape or another polygon shape.

43. (Previously presented): The backlight device as in claim 40, wherein the point light sources are juxtaposed to the distal end portion of the convex structure.

44. (Previously presented): The backlight device as in claim 42, wherein the point light sources are positioned relative to the convex structures such that light emitted from the point light sources are substantially received through the convex structure.

45. (Previously presented): The backlight device further comprises a diffusion sheet disposed

46. (Previously presented): The backlight surface comprises a light guide pattern.

47. (Previously presented): The backlight pattern is at least one of jagged or uneven surface.

48. (Previously presented): The backlight material of the light guide plate comprises at least one of polycarbonate, or a combination thereof.

49. (Previously presented): An LCD device comprising a backlight device as in claim 27; and an LCD panel positioned relative to the light emitted from the light emitting surface.

50. (Previously presented): The LCD device comprising a diffusion sheet disposed between the LCD panel and the backlight device.

51. (Previously presented): A backlight device comprising a two dimensional array of point light sources

a planar light guide plate comprising a first surface emitting light sources and a second surface emitting light passing through the first surface comprises a two dimensional array of protrusions, each with a point light source in the array of point light sources.

52. (Previously presented): The backlight from the protrusions comprises convex structures.